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WHEREAS:

Minnesota has long been recognized as one of the healthiest states in the nation and a role model for others across the nation and world in protecting and promoting the health

of its people; and

WHEREAS:

Public health has played a crucial role in laying the foundation for good health and improved longevity, by working to immunize people against disease; identifying and controlling environmental health hazards and infectious diseases; improving the health of mothers and children; and promoting healthy behaviors in areas like tobacco use,

physical activity, and nutrition; and

WHEREAS:

The dedicated professionals who work at the Minnesota Department of Health and local public health agencies across the state have long been at the center of these efforts, and

WHEREAS:

Public health activities, such as those noted above, were responsible for 25 of the 30

years of average lifespan gained during the 20th Century; and

WHEREAS:

Dedicated public health professionals work in a variety of exacting, scientifically-based disciplines, including medicine, nursing, education, nutrition, toxicology, epidemiology,

engineering, and sanitation; and

WHEREAS:

Minnesota's public health professionals have been on the leading edge of developing new strategies to detect and control disease outbreaks, address emerging environmental contaminants, provide valuable information to people about health care costs and quality, prepare for large-scale emergencies, and promote healthy communities; and

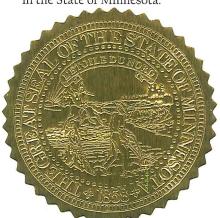
WHEREAS:

Public health leaders are grateful for the contributions of people in all sectors of society who are helping to build and sustain safe and healthy communities by addressing the social determinants of health, such as education and economic development; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of April 2-8, 2012 to be:

## PUBLIC HEALTH RECOGNITION WEEK

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this  $20^{\rm th}$ day of March.

SECRETARY OF STATE